

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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RICHARD EASTRIDGE RECEIVES SAGAMORE FROM OXLEY, KERNAN

INDIANAPOLIS – Crawford County Historian Richard Eastridge recently received the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash Award. State Rep. Dennie Oxley (D-English) presented Eastridge the award for his contributions to Indiana heritage on Jan. 8th at the Crawford County Library.

“Richard Eastridge has spent countless hours researching and writing about our county’s history and genealogy,” said Oxley. “His involvement in establishing the Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society and the wealth of knowledge he has gathered on this area’s past since being appointed as the Crawford County Historian in the 1990s is tremendous and I am pleased to have a part in awarding Richard the Sagamore of the Wabash Award for his service to Indiana.”

Before serving as the Crawford County Historian, Eastridge was a teacher at St. Paul High School in St. Paul, IN from 1964-1965 and then at Leavenworth High School, eventually consolidated into the Crawford County School system, until retiring in May 1999. “Richard was an excellent role model and his concern for the welfare of the students was always very apparent,” Oxley said.

Eastridge, nicknamed “Mr. History,” has spent countless hours of research in area libraries and courthouses in an attempt to preserve local history. He is constantly sharing his resources with people all over the United States, both in the numerous books he has written and through talking with citizens who are interested in their Crawford County roots.

The Sagamore of the Wabash Award is the highest honor the Indiana Governor can bestow on an individual. It was created by Gov. Ralph Gates in the late 1940s and has been given to astronauts, Presidents, ambassadors, artists, musicians and politicians.

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